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chapter (pp. 1-70), embrace all the Ortalidæ at present known from all parts of the world. The existing literature of the Ortalidæ is also fully reviewed. The number of the North American species of this family described in the body of the work is sixty-six.

The North American Trypetidæ have been the subject of a monograph which appeared in the first volume of the same series (1860). The additions to this family, received by Mr. Loew since that publication, were so numerous that he thought it worth while to return to the same subject again. The present work contains the descriptions of sixty-one North American Trypetidæ, thirty-eight of which were not contained in his first monograph. To this are added twelve South American species, for the sake of comparison with closely allied North American ones.

To the volume are added four plates, with 116 figures, representing the wings of nearly all the described species.

The translation of the volume from the German manuscript was made by Baron R. Osten Sacken. The four volumes of the *Monographs*, etc., hitherto published, contain the following families of Diptera: Large monographs; Dolichopodidæ (Vol. II), Tipulidæ brevipalpi (Vol. IV), Ortalidæ (Vol. III), Trypetidæ (Vols. I and III). Smaller monographs (all in Vol. I): Sciomyzidæ, Ephydridæ, Cecidomyidæ.

THE UNICELLULAR NATURE OF THE INFUSORIA.* — Anything that comes from the pen of the distinguished professor of Jena is striking and original. The main idea of the present paper is a reaffirmation of the unicellular nature of the Infusoria, first distinctly enunciated by Von Siebold in 1845, when he opposed Ehrenberg's well known conceptions of their organization. Hæckel divides the animal kingdom into two groups, the one-celled or Protozoa, and the many-celled or Metazoa, and accompanies his views with the inevitable phylogenetic table of the animal kingdom.

This view scarcely seems in accordance with known facts regarding the structure of these so-called unicellular infusoria. If the reader will turn to that remarkable book, "Mind and Nature" (p. 43) by the late Professor H. J. Clark, he will find the many-

* Zur Morphologie der Infusorien; von Ernst Hæckel. From the Jena Zeitschrift. Bd. vii. Leipzig, 1873. 8vo, pp. 54, with two plates.

celled structure of *Actinophrys* clearly described and figured. He remarks that "though the cells are very distinct, they exhibit a low state of development, as low perhaps as could possibly obtain without failing to be genuine cells." Farther on (p. 46) he claims that in this animal there are "two distinct sets of tissues," and speaks of an "outer layer of cells" and of a set of "inner cells." Until these parts are explained away we shall doubt the wisdom of the conclusions of the German observer, and call in question the naturalness of his classification of the animal kingdom into one-celled and many-celled animals. It seems less natural than the old division into vertebrates and invertebrates.

SIEBOLD'S ANATOMY OF THE INVERTEBRATES.* — We have constantly used this work, having found it the most valuable book of reference in the language, notwithstanding the fact that it is twenty years behind the times, and the classification is objectionable. This edition is exactly the same as that of 1854.

BOTANY.

Dr. BEARDSLEE has recently published a catalogue of the plants of Ohio, in the preface of which he speaks of "the late M. S. Bebb, of Illinois." As inquiries are already addressed to us upon the subject, we wish to say that Mr. Bebb actually and actively lives, and we hope the day is far distant when this appellation can be rightfully appended to the name of this most enterprising and efficient of our middle-aged western botanists. — A. G.

DOUBLE *THALICTRUM*. — A day or two ago, Mr. Whiting, a student, brought me a novelty in the shape of a completely doubled flower of *Thalictrum anemonoides*. The stamens were *all* transformed to pink petals, giving to the flower much the appearance of a small specimen of the double flowered form of *Prunus nana*. There was but one flower, on a solitary pedicel, otherwise the plant seemed to be normal. I shall secure the root if possible, and hope to perpetuate this very pretty sport. Is this doubled pink form common? — C. E. BESSEY.

Dr. W. G. FARLOW, a valued contributor to the *NATURALIST*, has returned to Cambridge, after two years' study of lower crypt-

*Anatomy of the Invertebrata. By C. Th. von Siebold. Translated from the German with additions and notes by Waldo I. Burnett, M.D. Boston, 1874. James Campbell. 8vo, pp. 470. \$5.00.